

over 2 miles of coastal trail. Under her leadership, a ban was instituted on foam containers and plastic bags in the city. She also led Fort Bragg to become the first city to allow food waste in yard waste recycling, and in becoming the first Bee City in California.

As the city manager, Linda has worked with 12 different councilmembers and three different mayors, and gracefully navigated a spectrum of politics, challenges, and crises. She has been responsible for implementing 78 ordinances and managing \$33 million in capital improvement projects. Linda leaves the city with a stable and successful management team and a staff dedicated to improving the quality of life for the residents of Fort Bragg.

In her spare time, Linda serves the public as a Rotarian, an active mentor for the Interact Afterschool Program, and she volunteers for many teen leadership events. She is also the mother of two children, Eli and Jasper Henderson.

Linda Ruffing has been a dedicated and effective public servant for 26 years, and I hope you will join me in recognizing her many accomplishments and sending her best wishes on her retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2018

Mr. NUNES. Mr. Speaker, on the legislative day of Tuesday, February 13, 2018, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to cast a vote on two Roll Call Votes. Had I been present, I would have voted:

on Roll Call No. 70—YES; and Roll Call No. 71—YES.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF BROOKLYN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. HAKEEM S. JEFFRIES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2018

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 100th Anniversary of the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce. On February 10, 2018, the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce celebrated a century of strengthening local businesses and making invaluable contributions to the local economy.

Established in 1918, the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce has assisted businesses through innovative programs that have helped grow and promote Brooklyn's economic landscape. In 1922, the organization expanded their outreach by hosting the Manufacturers Industrial Show, highlighting over 200 Brooklyn manufacturers and opened its membership to women. Just five years later, the chamber of commerce had become the second largest in the United States.

In the 1980's the United States Small Business Administration formally recognized the Brooklyn Chamber and their commitment to protecting and promoting the commercial and industrial components of the city and their outreach efforts, technical assistance and referrals on behalf of minority and women-owned businesses.

Under the leadership of Andrew Hoan, President and CEO of the Chamber has experienced considerable growth, exceeding over 2,000 members and launching several exciting initiatives across the borough. As an example, Explore BK, Brooklyn Made have allowed tourists and Brooklynites alike to connect with local businesses and provided businesses with a national platform. The continued success of the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce would not be possible without the support and dedication of its faithful partners and members.

Mr. Speaker, in honor of the history and legacy of this trailblazing organization and the many committed people who make it a success, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce on its 100th anniversary.

RECOGNIZING FATHER MARTIN ELSNER, SJ

HON. JOAQUIN CASTRO

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2018

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Father Martin Elsner, SJ, who passed away on February 4, 2018. Father Elsner hailed from my hometown of San Antonio, and we will miss him deeply.

Father Elsner was born in St. Louis on September 1, 1931. He attended Jesuit High in Dallas and Price High in Amarillo and later continued his studies at St. Charles College. Father Elsner went on to earn a bachelor's degree in English at Spring Hill College in Mobile, Alabama; a master's degree in Education; and studied theology at St. Mary's College in St. Marys, Kansas.

Prior to his ministry in San Antonio, Father Elsner began his priestly ministry in Shreveport, Louisiana, where he served as an assistant principal at Jesuit High School from 1964 to 1968. After, Father Elsner was appointed Rector-President at Jesuit High School in El Paso, Texas, where eventually he also served as both President and Principal. After three years in school administration in El Paso, he was Pastor for eight years at St. Joseph Church in Houston, Texas and was also a religious leader at the Metropolitan Organization in Houston.

Continuing his ministry in Texas, Father Elsner became a Pastor at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in San Antonio where he remained until just last year—serving twice as a Pastor and many years as an associate. Father Elsner was also active in the Communities Organized for Public Service (COPS) and was also spiritual director at Assumption Seminary in San Antonio from 2011 to 2017.

Father Elsner was a true pillar in San Antonio and to the state of Texas—always giving back to the community and making our state shine it's brightest. Father Elsner was very active in the Texas Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty, as well as the Southside Consortium for Catholic Schools and Westside Catholic Schools. He also frequently served as a celebrant for the televised Mass on Catholic Television of San Antonio.

Throughout his lifetime, he received awards of Outstanding Leader recognition from the archdiocesan Department of Catholic Schools

in 1997, and the Benetia Humanitarian Award from the Missionary Catechists of Divine Providence in 2013. These awards don't even fully explain what Father Elsner accomplished in his lifetime.

Father Elsner was a kind and humble man, dedicated to bettering the lives of the people in San Antonio and everywhere else he spent time. His footprint is everlasting, and his leadership as an educator and religious figure to many will be greatly missed.

WELCOME SLOANE DACHISEN BRAVO

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2018

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to congratulate Summer Buchanan Bravo and her husband, Matthew Edward Bravo, on the birth of their new baby girl, Sloane Dachisen Bravo. Sloane Dachisen Bravo was born on February 3, 2018, at Sibley Memorial Hospital in Washington, D.C. Sloane weighed seven pounds and eight ounces and measured 19 and $\frac{3}{4}$ inches long.

I would also like to congratulate Sloane's grandparents, Steve and Barbara Buchanan of Birmingham, Alabama, and Charles and Linda Bravo of Fairfax, Virginia. Congratulations to the entire family as they welcome their newest addition of pure pride and joy.

THOMAS REYNOLDS

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2018

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a friend of mine, Thomas Reynolds, who passed away recently at the age of 68 in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Tom was born in Muncie, Indiana on November 6, 1949. He worked for Delta Faucet in Greensburg with my Mom, for a total of 42 years until he retired in 2013, and was married to Amy Kay Fisher on April 15, 2000, who preceded him in death on November 26, 2015. Tom was a member of the YMCA for many years, and was an avid high school basketball fan that attended numerous boy's and girl's games over the years, who loved to watch his grandsons play baseball. Throughout his life Tom had a profound impact on countless Hoosiers.

On a personal note, Thomas Reynolds had a giant personality and was someone whose support and guidance I could always count on. He was supportive, as a baseball coach, early on in my life and I'm greatly appreciative of his friendship and leadership.

He will be mourned most by those who knew him best, and he will be missed by all. Tom is survived by three sons: Craig (Mandy) Reynolds; Cris (Angie) Reynolds; Bobby (Heather) Reynolds; brother, Steven Loyd; sister, Rita Reynolds; and six grandchildren, Cade, Sydney, Corey, Trevor, A.J., and Cole Reynolds.